

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Summary: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: Application for Reimbursement for Hospital Insurance Services in Canada; OMB 3220-0086

Under section 7(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), the RRB administers the Medicare program for persons covered by the railroad retirement system. Payments are provided under section 7(d)4) of the RRA for medical services furnished in Canada to the same extent as for those furnished in the United States. However, payments for the services furnished in Canada are made from the Railroad Retirement Account rather than from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, with the payments limited to the amount by which insurance benefits under Medicare exceed the amount payable under Canadian Provincial plans.

Form AA-104, Application for Canadian Hospital Benefits Under Medicare - Part A, is provided by the RRB to a claimant seeking reimbursement for covered hospital services received in

Canada. The form obtains information needed to determine the eligibility of the applicant and the amount of any reimbursement due. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain a benefit. The RRB proposes no changes to Form AA-104.

Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden

The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows:

Form Number	Annual Responses	Time (Minutes)	Burden (Hours)
AA-104	30	10	5

2. Title and purpose of information collection: Availability for Work; OMB 3220-0164
Under Section 1(k) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, unemployment benefits are not payable for any day for which the claimant is not available for work.

Under Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) regulation 20 CFR 327.5, "available for work" is defined as being willing and ready for work. A claimant is "willing" to work if willing to accept and perform for hire such work as is reasonably appropriate to his or her employment circumstances. A claimant is "ready" for work if he or she (1) is in a position to receive notice of work and is willing to accept and perform such work, and (2) is prepared to be present with the customary equipment at the location of such work within the time usually allotted.

Under RRB regulation 20 CFR 327.15, a claimant may be requested at any time to show, as evidence of willingness to work, that reasonable efforts are being made to obtain work. In order to determine whether a claimant is; a) available for work, and b) willing to work, the RRB utilizes Forms UI-38, UI Claimant's Report of Efforts to Find Work, and UI-38s, School Attendance and Availability Questionnaire, to obtain information from the claimant and Form ID-8k, Questionnaire - Reinstatement of Discharged or Suspended Employee, from the union

representative. One response is completed by each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to the forms in the collection.

Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden

The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows:

Form Number	Annual Responses	Time (Minutes)	Burden (Hours)
UI-38s In person By mail	42 86	6 10	4 14
UI-38	2,048	11.5	392
ID-8k	5,668	5	472
Total	7,844		882

Additional Information or Comments: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, contact Dana Hickman at (312) 751-4981 or Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Charles Mierzwa, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 or e-mailed to Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Charles Mierzwa, Chief of Information Resources Management.

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